Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

August 26, 2022

The Honorable Miguel Cardona Secretary U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Ave. SW Washington, DC 20202

Dear Secretary Cardona,

As members of the Congressional Caucus to Protect Kids, we write to request information about a recent announcement regarding the Department of Education's Office of Safe and Supportive Schools.

On March 31, 2022, the Biden Administration announced that the Office of Safe and Supportive Schools "will offer new training for schools with experts and school leaders who will discuss the challenges faced by many transgender and nonbinary students and strategies and actions for providing support." Since the initial announcement, there has been no further information provided by your department.

As you know, the mission statement of the U.S. Department of Education is "to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access." We are concerned that the Department of Education, through their new training program, will encourage schools to promote and teach gender ideology to young students without their parents' consent.

We ask that you promptly respond to the following questions:

- 1. Will this training be mandatory for educators receiving funds from the U.S. Department of Education?
- 2. What will be included in the training materials provided to school leaders?
- 3. Who will train school leaders in strategies and actions related to transgender and nonbinary students?
- 4. Will any of the trainings include information on avoiding parental involvement in a student's gender transition?
- 5. Will parents be notified if these trainings are provided at their children's schools?
- 6. What is the cost of providing training material to school leaders that solely focus on transgender and nonbinary students?

We request a response from you or your department by September 15, 2022.

Sincerely,

Debbie Lesko

Member of Congress

Ralph Norman

Member of Congress

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